

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE
(Standing Committee of Berkeley County Council)

Chairman: Mr. Jack H. Schurlknight, Council Member District No. 6

A **meeting** of the **Committee on Finance**, Standing Committee of Berkeley County Council, was held on Wednesday, **May 27, 2009**, in the Assembly Room of the Berkeley County Administration Building, 1003 Highway 52, Moncks Corner, South Carolina, at 7:37 p.m.

PRESENT: Chairman Jack H. Schurlknight, Council District No. 6; Committee Member Phillip Farley, Council District No. 1; Committee Member Timothy J. Callanan, Council District No. 2; Committee Member Robert O. Call, Jr., Council District No. 3; Committee Member Cathy S. Davis, Council District No. 4; Committee Member Dennis L. Fish, Council District No. 5; Committee Member Caldwell Pinckney, Jr., Council District No. 7; Committee Member Steve C. Davis, Council District No. 8; County Supervisor Daniel W. Davis, ex officio; Mrs. Nicole Scott Ewing, County Attorney; and Ms. Barbara B. Austin, Clerk of County Council.

In accordance with the Freedom of Information Act, the electronic and print media were duly notified.

During periods of discussion and/or presentations, minutes are typically condensed and paraphrased.

Chairman Schurlknight called the meeting to order.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairman Schurlknight asked for approval of minutes from a meeting of the Committee on Finance held April 27, 2009.

It was moved by Committee Member Pinckney and seconded by Committee Member Fish to **approve** the **minutes** as presented. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote of the Committee.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

It was moved by Committee Member Callanan and seconded by Committee Member Cathy Davis to **enter** into **Executive Session** to discuss matters relating to the discussion of employment, appointment, compensation, promotion, demotion, discipline or release of an employee, a student or a person regulated by a public body; and the receipt of legal advice, where the legal advice relates to a pending, threatened or potential

claim; and other matters covered by the attorney/client privilege. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote of the Committee.

The Committee entered into Executive Session at 7:38 p.m., and returned to Committee Session at 7:49 p.m.

Mrs. Nicole Scott Ewing, County Attorney, reported that the Committee entered into Executive Session for reasons stated in the motion, and no formal action was taken.

A. Berkeley County Water and Sanitation Expenditures Advisory Committee, Re: Engagement Letter

Chairman Schurlnknight stated that the engagement letter, with approved additions, was provided to the Committee for its review. Chairman Schurlnknight asked if there were any questions prior to him signing the letter this night.

Committee Members had no further questions with regard to the engagement letter.

B. Consideration prior to **First Reading** of an ordinance to amend Ordinance No. 08-06-43, adopted June 23, 2008, to provide for **supplemental appropriations** and allocations thereof within the **2008-2009 Budget for Berkeley County**; and other matters relating thereto.

Committee Member Callanan questioned if information regarding this proposed ordinance was available for review.

Ms. Kace Smith responded that there was no information at this time. The proposed ordinance would reflect a “true-up” and some corrections to the budget (i.e., insurance proceeds received), thus corresponding expenditures would be budgeted. This information would be provided to the Committee at a later date and prior to Third Reading.

It was moved by Committee Member Fish and seconded by Committee Member Callanan to **approve consideration**, prior to **First Reading**, of an **ordinance** amending Ordinance No. 08-06-43 to provide for **supplemental appropriations** thereof within the **2008-2009 Budget for Berkeley County**. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote of the Committee.

C. Review prior to **Second Reading** of the following:

1. Bill No. 09-16, an **ordinance** providing for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2009 and ending June 30, 2010 for the **Devon Forest Special Tax District**

operational budget; and to provide for the expenditures of the revenues received by the Devon Forest Special Tax District during the fiscal year.

It was moved by Committee Member Fish and seconded by Committee Member Pinckney to **approve review**, prior to **Second Reading**, of **Bill No. 09-16**. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote of the Committee.

2. Bill No. 09-17, an **ordinance** providing for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2009 and ending June 30, 2010 for the **Pimlico Special Tax District operational budget**; and to provide for the expenditures of the revenues received by the Pimlico Special Tax District during the fiscal year.

It was moved by Committee Member Callanan and seconded by Committee Member Farley to **approve review**, prior to **Second Reading**, of **Bill No. 09-17**. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote of the Committee.

3. Bill No. 09-18, an **ordinance** providing for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2009 and ending June 30, 2010 for the **Sangaree Special Tax District operational budget**; and to provide for the expenditures of the revenues received by the Sangaree Special Tax District during the fiscal year.

It was moved by Committee Member Cathy Davis and seconded by Committee Member Farley to **approve review**, prior to **Second Reading**, of **Bill No. 09-18**. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote of the Committee.

4. Bill No. 09-19, an **ordinance** providing for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2009 and ending June 30, 2010 for the **Tall Pines Special Tax District operational budget**; and to provide for the expenditures of the revenues received by the Tall Pines Special Tax District during the fiscal year.

Committee Member Fish reported that there would be some changes to this budget. Committee Members would have an opportunity to review those changes prior to Third Reading of Bill No. 09-19.

It was moved by Committee Member Fish and seconded by Committee Member Callanan to **approve review**, prior to **Second Reading**, of **Bill No. 09-19**.

Chairman Schurlknight questioned a line item, in the amount of \$750, for a scholarship fund under “General – Administrative”.

Committee Member Fish stated that to be exactly one of the changes to be made.

The motion passed by unanimous voice vote of the Committee.

5. Bill No. 09-20, an **ordinance** providing for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2009 and ending June 30, 2010 for the **operational budget** of the **Berkeley County**

Special Fire Tax District within the unincorporated portions of Berkeley County; and to provide for the expenditures of the revenues received by the Special Fire Tax District during the fiscal year.

It was moved by Committee Member Fish and seconded by Committee Member Pinckney to **approve review**, prior to **Second Reading**, of **Bill No. 09-20**. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote of the Committee.

6. Bill No. 09-21, an ordinance providing **appropriations** for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2009 and ending June 30, 2010 for **Berkeley County**; to provide for levy of taxes on all taxable property in Berkeley County for all County purposes; to provide for the expenditures of said taxes and other revenues coming into the County for the fiscal year.

It was moved by Committee Member Pinckney and seconded by Committee Member Call to **approve review**, prior to **Second Reading**, of **Bill No. 09-21**.

Committee Member Fish questioned the number of vehicles now assigned as take home vehicles on a nightly basis, as reductions would hopefully reflect a huge savings in the budget.

Supervisor Daniel Davis responded that a report was being prepared for Committee Members to review.

Committee Member Fish questioned if this information would be provided to the Committee prior to Third Reading of Bill No. 09-21.

Chairman Schurlknight and Supervisor Daniel Davis responded, "Yes."

Committee Member Fish stated that there appeared to be a large amount of personal property tax not being collected. Committee Member Fish questioned how the County was moving forward to collect delinquent personal property tax, such as for boats.

Supervisor Daniel Davis asked Committee Member Fish for specific information, in order for him to get an answer to that question. All collections were pursued according to state law. Personal property tax was difficult to collect.

Committee Member Fish stated that he would get more specific information from the Tax Collector.

Committee Member Callanan questioned when the Committee would be provided a copy of Berkeley County's actual budget for 2009 – 2010.

Chairman Schurlknight responded that the books would be released most probably the end of this week or first of next week. The books would be delivered to Committee Members.

Chairman Schurlknight continued and reported that there would be a special Finance Committee Meeting on June 8th, along with other Committee Meetings. Ms. Elaine Morgan, with the Berkeley Chamber of Commerce, would present an update on the accommodations tax at that time.

Committee Member Call asked if there was a mechanism in place with the County to collect personal property tax owed on leased equipment when the lessee was responsible for those taxes.

Supervisor Daniel Davis responded that if leased personal property was sent back to the leasing company without the taxes paid on that property, it was unsure if there was any way to collect the taxes if state lines were crossed. Once the personal property was gone, it was difficult to collect taxes on it. Automobiles need a license to operate, so there is a way to trace that type property. Other items, such as heavy equipment, would be a problem with collection of any taxes due.

The motion to approve review of Bill No. 09-21, prior to Second Reading, was passed by unanimous voice vote of the Committee.

Without objection from the Committee, it was moved by Committee Member Callanan and seconded by Committee Member Fish to **approve the grandfather exception** in Part Four, Section I, Paragraph (B)(3) of the Berkeley County Personnel Manual to be applied to the current **open position** in the **Communications Department**. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote of the Committee.

It was moved by Committee Member Callanan and seconded by Committee Member Fish to **adjourn** the meeting of the Committee on Finance. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote of the Committee.

Meeting adjourned at 8:01 p.m.

June 22, 2009
Date Approved

FINANCE
(Standing Committee of Berkeley County Council)

Chairman: Mr. Jack H. Schurlknight, District No. 6

Members: Mr. Phillip Farley, District No. 1
Mr. Timothy J. Callanan, District No. 2
Mr. Robert O. Call, Jr., District No. 3
Mrs. Cathy S. Davis, District No. 4
Mr. Dennis L. Fish, District No. 5
Mr. Caldwell Pinckney, Jr., District No. 7
Mr. Steve C. Davis, District No. 8
Mr. Daniel W. Davis, Supervisor, ex officio

A **meeting** of the **COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**, Standing Committee of Berkeley County Council will be held on **Wednesday May 27, 2009**, following the meetings of the Committees on Public Works and Purchasing and Water and Sanitation at **6:00 p.m.**, in the Assembly Room, Berkeley County Administration Building, 1003 Highway 52, Moncks Corner, South Carolina.

AGENDA

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

April 27, 2009

EXECUTIVE SESSION to discuss matters relating to the discussion of employment, appointment, compensation, promotion, demotion, discipline, or release of an employee, a student, or a person regulated by a public body and the receipt of legal advice where the legal advice relates to a pending, threatened, or potential claim and other matters covered by the attorney-client privilege.

A. Berkeley County Water and Sanitation Expenditures Advisory Committee:
Re: Engagement letter.

B. Consideration prior to **First Reading** of an **ordinance** to **amend Ordinance No. 08-06-43**, adopted June 23, 2008, to provide for Supplemental Appropriations and allocations thereof within the **2008-2009 Budget** for Berkeley County; and other matters relating thereto.

C. Review prior to **Second Reading** of the following:

1. Bill No. 09-16, an **ordinance** providing for the fiscal year beginning **July 1, 2009, and ending June 30, 2010**, for the **Devon Forest Special Tax District** operational budget; and to provide for the expenditures of the revenues received by the Devon Forest Special Tax District during the fiscal year.

2. **Bill No. 09-17**, an **ordinance** providing for the fiscal year beginning **July 1, 2009, and ending June 30, 2010**, for the **Pimlico Special Tax District** operational budget; and to provide for the expenditures of the revenues received by the Pimlico Special Tax District during the fiscal year.
3. **Bill No. 09-18**, an **ordinance** providing for the fiscal year beginning **July 1, 2009, and ending June 30, 2010**, for the **Sangaree Special Tax District** operational budget; and to provide for the expenditures of the revenues received by the Sangaree Special Tax District during the fiscal year.
4. **Bill No. 09-19**, an **ordinance** providing for the fiscal year beginning **July 1, 2009, and ending June 30, 2010**, for the **Tall Pines Special Tax District** operational budget; and to provide for the expenditures of the revenues received by the Tall Pines Special Tax District during the fiscal year.
5. **Bill No. 09-20**, an **ordinance** providing for the fiscal year beginning **July 1, 2009, and ending June 30, 2010**, for the operational budget of the **Berkeley County Special Fire Tax District** within the unincorporated portions of Berkeley County; and to provide for the expenditures of the revenues received by the Special Fire Tax District during the fiscal year.
6. **Bill No. 09-21**, an **ordinance** providing appropriations for the fiscal year beginning **July 1, 2009, and ending June 30, 2010**, for **Berkeley County**; to provide for levy of taxes on all taxable property in Berkeley County for all county purposes; to provide for the expenditures of said taxes and other revenues coming into the county for the fiscal year.

May 20, 2009
S/Barbara B. Austin, CCC
Clerk of County Council